AnzereScun

Notes from the Editors

Another year has past and more Morris sides have spread about the continent. There are 75 Morris sides, Sword and Ribbon teams listed in this year's directory. We have tried to keep up-to-date on all the names, addresses, and locations of all of them. If you know of any Morris side missing from this roster, please do let us know immediately.

As your particular team changes name, address, or becomes inactive, we ask you to let us know in order to keep the directory as current as possible. If you have gone as far as to write us about changes, let us know all the news of your side so we may pass it on to the rest of the folks who receive this newsletter.

Lots of activity has and will continue to happen in Morris dancing. More ales are being held; a new American Morris tradition has been created in Minneapolis and rumor has it that to other similar projects are underway elsewhere in the country; three English Morris sides will be touring the Eastern U.S. this summer — all indicative of a very healthy state of affairs. Caper on North America

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MORRIS IN NORTH AMERICA

This is an annual feature of AMN in which all known clubs and groups using Morris and/or sword dancing are listed. We were fortunate this year to have the assistance of quite a few of you in locating teams which were new or which had not yet established communication with the Morris community in North America. As you can see by the size of the list, ascertaining which teams were still active was a very large task this year. IF READERS FIND ERRORS OR OMISIONS, PLEASE INFORM US IMMEDIATELY. We will publish a list of corrections in the July issue.

Alabama

Fairhope, Ala.: Jim Morrison informed us last year that there is a school team in this town which has danced continuously since 1927. No contact person.

British Columbia

Hollytree Morris: David Winn, 2142 Pentland Rd. Victoria, B.C. V8S 2W4

California

Berkeley Morris: Clyde F. O'Neal II, 5827 Patton St., Oakland, CA 94618
Berkeley Rapper Sword: Clyde O'Neal, 5827 Patton St., Oakland, CA 94618
Dear Creek Morris & Sword: Bob Fraley, 856 Matadero Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306
Sunset Morris Men: Gene Murrow, 5191 Manton Av., Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Connecticut

Mianus River Morris: Tony Polis, 26 Ganaletas Rd. Ridgefield, CT 06877
New Haven Morris and Swords: David Lindsey, 95 Mansfield St., New Haven, CT 06511

New York

Rock Island Morris: Platt Arnold, 250 Hempstead St., New London, CT 06320

Colorado

Rocky Mountain Morris and Swords: David Hewitt, 4801 Norwood Ave., Loveland, CO 80537
also; Elaine Regelson, 1024 A Wind Trail, Ft. Collins, CO 80526

D.C.

Foggy Bottom M: John Appelton, Bagman, #102 104C4 Rockville Pine, Rockville, MD

Rock Creek Morris: Mary Chor, 3217 McKinley St. Washington, DC 20008

20852
Florida

Tallahassee Morris: Jon Ericson, 176-a Moore Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32304

Georgia

Briar Rose Dancers: Rayvone, Susan Davis, 1338 Almeta Ave., N.W., Atlanta GA 30307

Tarrybelle Morris New: Squire, Scott Russell, 1338 Almeta Ave. N.W., Atlanta, GA 30307

Illinois

Ladies' Pleasure: Katy Early, 5631 So. Maryland, Chicago, IL 60637

Wild Onion Morris: Paul Ford, 1472 E. 56th St., Chicago, IL 60637

Champagin-Urbana: People are continually telling us there is a team here, but we have yet to find someone to write to.

Indiana

Bloomington Quarry Morris: Frank Hall, P.O. Box 9, Bloomington, IN 47401

Kentucky

Berea MM: John Ramsey, CPO 287, Berea, KY 40404

Mar Apple Morris: Pamela Corley, CPO 199, Berea, KY 40404

Lexington MM: Peter Rogers, 1538 Bluebird Ln., Lexington, KY 40503

Mountian MM: (a regional team) Peter Rogers, (as above)

Maine

Ziggler's Reach Morris: Robb Sipay, 9 Wilson St., Topsham, ME 04086

Highland Mare: no contact person available

Main Island Morris: crest Dennis, Cattill Rd., Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918

Main Island Morris Women: Lorie Bushell, 27 Penobscot St., Orono, ME 04473

Stillwater, M: Roger Cartwright, 27 Penobscot St., Orono, ME 04473

Village Green: John Trevenan, 392 Campbell St., Winnepeg, Manitoba R2H 1B7

Maryland

Baltimorris: Mark Vidor, 529 E. 38th St., Baltimore, MD 21218

Massachusetts

Black Jokers: Howard Lasnik, 22 Swan Pl., Arlington, MA 02174

H&P Penny Morris: Barbara Canon, 232 Walden St., Cambridge, MA 02140

Hippo Silver Morris: Bepire: Deborah Aronson, 4 Potter Pl., Cambridge, MA 02138

New Cambridge MM: Mark Milke, 50 College Av., Somerville, MA 02144

New Towne, P: Peter Masters, 15 Summer Av., Medford, MA 02155

Wetland Stompers Morris & Sword: Dennis J. Sherm, 299 Central Street, West Acton, MA

Woods Hole Morris: Emily Ferguson, P.O. Box 453, Woods Hole, MA 02570

Pine Woods MM: (regional) J.M. Graeter, P.O. Box 453, Woods Hole, MA 02570

Michigan

Ann Arbor Morris & Sword: John Cavanaugh, 805 N. Prospect, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Bells of the North: Beth Hennessy, 2733 Portland Ave, S., #103, Minneapolis, MN 55407

Minnesota Traditional Morris: Steve Parker, 438 N.E. 4th St., Minneapolis, MN 55403

New Hampshire

Harrisville, NH Women's Morris: Mary Des Rosiers, Box 510, New Ipswich, NH 03071

Durham Morris: Peter Vare-May, 36A Atkinson St., Dover NH 03820

Norse MM: Patay Decker, Box 364, Norwich, VT 05055

New York

Boucher Boys: John Dexter, 250 Elizabeth St., New York, NY 10012

Binghamton MN: Nathan Lord, 108 Chestnut St., Binghamton, NY 13905

Greenwich, NY: Dan Schmaler, 57-57 228th St., Bayville, NY 11264

Hearts of Oak: Dorothy Lawrence, 1251 Vestal Av., Binghamton, NY 13901

Pond Creek Morris: Terry Syder, 114 Winthrop Av., Albany, NY 12203

Ring O'Mell: Diane Ravelli, 74 River Rd., Cos Cob, CT 06807

Thornden Morris: Sonora Etherridge, 416 Columbus Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210
Ontario

Black Sheep Morris: Sarah Farquhar, 379 Woolwich St., Guelph, Ontario N1L 3W8

Frost City Morris: Ron Duncan, 172 Cedar Ave., London, Ontario N6G 1E7

Green Fiddle Morris: Doug Gies, 41 Hanton Av. #29, Toronto, Ontario M4M 2V8

Hogtown Morris: This is apparently a new team in the Toronto area for which we have no contacts.

Mississippi Headless Hellel, 3307 Kings Masting Dr., Mississauga, Ont.


Pennsylvania

Kingsbridge WI: Tom Senior, 118 Montrose Av., Rosemont, PA 19010

Kincross Morris: Tom Senior, 118 Montrose Av., Rosemont, PA 19010

Mason-Dixon Border Morris: Larry White, Rt. 2 Box 65, Clearville, PA 15535

Spruce Hill Morris: E.A. Snowdon, 7525 Devon St., Philadelphia, PA 19119

Three Rivers Morris: Albert Blank, 107 Buckingham Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15215

Rhode Island

Westerly WI: Peter Leibert, Rt. 1 Box 191, Norwich, CT 06360

Tennessee

Bowerwood Morris: Meg MacLeod, 4404 McLane, Knoxville, TN 37918

Texas

Map of Houston: John Vivian, 3304 Villanova, W. University Pl., Houston, TX 77005

Village Rose Morris: Dorcas Hend, 3220 West Main #1, Houston, TX 77092

Vermont

Marlboro Morris & Sword: Tony Karrand, Box 11, Marlboro, VT 05344

Tree of Life Morris: Hei Giesler, P.O. Box 399, Londonderry, VT 05344

Putney Morris: Fred Breunig, P.O. Box 30, Putney, VT 05346

Virginia

Alderman WA: Robert La Rue, Bagman, Rt 1 Box 303A, Barboursville, VA 24923

Powhatan Morris: Howard R. Bass, Rt. 2 Box 29a, Berryville, VA 22611

Court Square Dancing Society: Mary Morrison, Rt 2 Box 416, Charlottesville, VA

Richmond Morris Men: Guy A. McLean-Irtham, 609c Tilden St. Richmond, VA 23221

Washington

Gasworks Morris: Patricia Tan, 2720 N.E. 84th, Seattle, WA 98115

Wisconsin

Folklore Village Morris: Bob Werner, 3610 Harlow Rd., Mt. Horeb, WI 53572

Oak Apple Morris: Mark Fulton, 622 N. Henry St., Madison, WI 53703

Morris Calendar, continued from p. 4

June

4.  Bolt: Lovely Lane Methodist Church
5.  PUNI: to be announced
6.  Bolt: Cour of Western MD
7.  Blunt:
8.  Bolt: Grand Old Days, Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN
9.  West: T.M.C.A. Annual Volunteers Banquet
10.  Bour: Bouwerie Boys Picnic in Northwest CT
11.  King: etc.
12.  Bolt: Artscape Festival, Baltimore, MD
13.  West: The Society of Colonial Dames, Whitehall, Middletown, CT
14.  West: possibly at London, ONT
15.  ViI:6: Summer Solstice Festival, Thunder Bay, ONT
17.  West: Heritagefest, New Ulm, MN
18.  West: Canterbury Fair, Canterbury, NH
19.  West: etc.
1982 Morris Calendar

This calendar is a listing of morris dance events in North America. It is by no means a complete list and consists only of those notices received by us in time for publication. Check with teams for details before travelling! Because we received very few notices for August and beyond we will be updating those events in the July issue of MN. We also have not included a list for April since this issue will likely be out late in the month.

Abbreviations:

Albem: Albemarle MM, VA
Ann Arbor: Ann Arbor M, MI
Bells of the North: BelN
Bloomington: Bloomington M, IN
Bour: Bourneville Boys, NY
Briar Rose: Briar Rose M, CA
Briar Rose M, GA
Foggy Bottom: Foggy Bottom MM, DC
Greenwich: Greenwich MM, NY
Ha'penny: Ha'penny M, MA
Harr: Harrisville NH Morris
Kings: Kingsessing MM, PA
Ladies' Pleasure: Ladies' Pleasure M, IL
Marl: Marlboro M, VT

MAY

1 Belt: spontaneous dancing-out, Baltimore, MD
1 Minneapolis: Minneapolis, MN
1 King: Grande May Day at Bryn Mawr College, Philadelphia and Peddler's Village, Lahaska, PA
1 Putney: around Putney, VT
1 RO'B: with a number of other teams in Boston
1 etc.: Connecticut College and more
2 BelN: Saltair Folkdance Coffeehouse, Minneapolis
2 Minn: Powderhorn Park May Festival, Minneapolis
2 West: Connecticut College and more
2 RO'B: with a number of other teams in Boston
2 etc.: Connecticut College and more
7 Marl: "tour with as yet unknown teams of Philadelphia"
15 Belt: Lynden Hills Community Center, Minneapolis
16 West: Kingston Congregational Church, Westerly, RI
22 Putney: Westminster and Bellows Falls, VT
22 RO'B: Old Westbury Gardens, Long Island Celebration of English Gardens
22 RO'B: Old Westbury Gardens, Long Island Celebration of English Gardens
22 Salt: "feared", Hill, Inner Harbor, Little Italy, Baltimore, MD
22 PUMM: putney, VT
22 PUMM: putney, VT
22 PUMM: putney, VT
28-31 RO'B: Seahorse Farmers' Market Grand Opening
31 Marl: Seventh Annual Marlboro Morris Ale, Marlboro College, Marlboro, VT

(continued on p.3)
This feature of the American Morris Newsletter is to provide for the regular communication among all Morris sides as well as those who dance sword, ribbon and parland. It is dependent upon your letters, postcards, and telephone calls. The response this quarter reflects the flow of that constant open communication. The names of the correspondents appear at the end of each club’s news.

Ann Arbor Morris and Sword (Ann Arbor, MI)

Morris is still alive and well in Ann Arbor. We put together a rapper team this winter and I was pleased with the result. If we can keep the same people around for a few years we should really have a good rapper dance on our hands. We’ve also been learning Bledington this winter from Bruce Sagan, a transfer from the Black Jokers.

Ann Arbor Morris and Sword, after a very successful beginners’ workshop, is teaching headington to a bright-eyed bunch of new recruits, and Bledington to the older dancers. The rapper dance is having all its ruffles and flourishes put on it, against future performances. There are a few changes in the team office holders: as of May 1, David Dettman and Rayna Alsberg will be squirefolk, Tomas Chavez and Jeane Hoftiezer will share the bag duties, previously held by David and Rayna as co-bagatelles. Carol Mohr and John Cavanaugh continue as forepeople. We are looking forward to a busy summer of Ales and ale, and the usual hometown gigs, launched by our traditional May-morning sun-assistance dancing which this year will include the squire swap. We hope to be hosting our own ale later in the season. Oh wow—the police are here! Gotta go . . .

Alsberg and Dettman, 27 S. Summit #8, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
John Cavanaugh, 805 N. Prospect, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Baltimorris (Baltimore, MD)

Greetings from the brown, green and yellow of Baltimorris! We are beginning our second year of dancing out this spring. While we have met and danced with a number of teams from the mid-Atlantic region this winter, we hope our new friends will come and visit us. The season is open to a chance to caper and clash sticks with those of you whom we as yet don’t know.

Baltimorris is a mixed team which has grown out of a core of country dancers from the Baltimore Folk Music Society. With the arrival of Barbara Morrison—formerly of Muddy River Morris, we began to practice weekly (or was it weekly?). At any rate, we learned a number of dances and began dancing out in April of last year, touring a number of times in Baltimore, as well as in Western MD and in Philadelphia. We continued through the fall, dancing locally and at the Renaissance Festival in Columbia, MD as well as at the Bluestone (VA) Ale.

This winter we added some new dancers and musicians, including Jon and Margaret Erickson from Binghamton, and have added some Adderbury to our bag of tricks. We are currently fourteen strong (some say strange), and ready to get at it again. For purposes of identification, if you should happen to see an unfamiliar morris dancer capering up your alley wearing a green vest, brown knickers, white shirt and socks, and sprouting a profusion of green and yellow ribbons from arm and bells—that will probably be one of us. Unless, of course, the object of your attention has fins and gills, in which case, for purposes of identification, you are looking at a fish. (Eds.: unedited. SP)

Our tour season looks busy for the spring, but we invite anyone passing through to get in touch. (Consult the morris calendar for dates and places.) No doubt we will also have some spontaneous tours throughout the spring. We look forward to getting kicked out of Sherwood Gardens for the second year in a row. Who knows?—we might even live up to a seventh inning stretch for the Orioles! Our Squire is Frank Pratta and our foreman is Barbara Morrison. A telephone message can be left at (301) 366-0808 for those wishing to contact the team.

Mark Vidor, 528 E. 38th St., Baltimore, MD 21218

Berea Country Dancers (Berea, KY)

The Berea Country Dancers continue a lively program of morris dancing for both men and women’s teams. The men are concentrating on the Adderbury and Bledington traditions this year. Both men and women toured at the Fall Craft Fair in October and twice on the college campus during the Christmas season. Next dancing out will be on May-day.

William Ramsey, Rt. 3, Box 247A, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456
Briar Rose Dancers

The Briar Rose is a group of Atlanta women who do garland, stave, ribbon, and original dances. Briar Rose are enjoying their second performing season with major fêtes planned for Mayday at the Atlanta Historical Society, touring in the North Georgia mountains, community festivals and the Marlboro Morris Ale.

Squire: Jennifer Anderson
Bagwoman: Susan Davis, 1838 Almeta Av. N.E., Atlanta, GA 30307

Greenwich Morris Men (New York, NY)

The Greenwich MM kept active in the fall preparing for the third annual New York production of the Christmas Revels, in which we presented two morris dances, the mysterious Abbot and Costello Horn Dance, an abridged Appleford longsword, and a two-man, multi-tradition jig to "Lord of the Dance". In our winter practices we continued with Fieldtown and are dabbling with Bledington after three years of discussion and only knowing "Morning Sickness" as a Marlboro mass dance.

Our new squire is Dave Chandler, the most ancient extant Greenwich Morris man. We picked up Andreas Hayden on waivers from Three Rivers Morris in exchange for a dancer to be named later and our first round draft pick at the winter trade meeting plus a cash payment of $2.25 into their beg. Hayden was expelled from Pittsburgh when he demanded a contract guaranteeing him a rest for two out of three dances. He is a sure bet for rookie of the year, even with his incessant nagging about rapper.

In the American morris tradition we are going into the button and T-shirt business, with the idea that on tours we can just sell trinkets, collect money, and not have to dance at all. Come see us at the Marlboro Boutique--one size fits all.

We have some fascinating jobs lined up for spring, including an excursion to the unexplored territory of New Jersey shopping malls. We expect to be pretty well wiped out by the time we get to Marlboro.

P. Friedman, 232 W. 16th St., 2R, New York, NY 10011

Ladies' Pleasure Morris (Chicago, IL)

The Ladies' Pleasure team is doing well in this, its second year, after an adjustment of membership. Our performances during the past few months included the Morton Arboretum Fall Festival and a holiday tour of the Billings Hospital. During the University of Chicago's Folk Festival we danced between music workshops and ushered in kit in exchange for free admission to the concerts. At Christmastime we danced a mixed side with the Wild onion Morris Men at an international students' organization party. (When we danced a mixed side we call ourselves the "Wild Pleasure Morris", the other possibility being the less highly favored "Ladies' Onion".)

We sharpened our skills at a workshop Tony Barrand gave on Nov. 8, 1981, and we were able to watch recent films of the Headington team. We co-sponsored that event with the men's team, and were joined by our friend John Cavanaugh of the Ann Arbor team.

Our next major dancing-out will be on Mayday. Finally, we look forward to seeing our fellow morris dancers and performing at the Madison Morris Ale.

Katy Early, Squire, 5611 S. Maryland, Chicago, IL 60637

Magnolia Morris Men (Atlanta, GA)

Now into their second season, the MM dance Bampton and are working on Bledington. These hale fellows often tour with the Briar Rose Dancers and also do pub stands. They danced at the South's first all nude art exhibit opening--fully clothed.

Bagman: Bill Parks
Squire: Scott Russell, 1838 Almeta Av. N.E., Atlanta, GA 30307 (404) 377-6242
May Apple Morris

This is to announce the formation of the May Apple Morris in Berea, KY. There are one dozen May Apple women dancing Northwest dances from Lancashire or Cheshire. Winter activities included a tour opening the local Christmas season and a workshop with morris lady Elaine Ford of the English Morris Federation (Eds.--probably the Women’s Morris Federation) and the Coventry Ladies of the Green Willow. Officers are: Pamela Corley, First Lady; Edie Weatherford, Secretary, and Peg La Point and Mary Ellen McLaughlin, Bagladies. Beverly Buchanan is our musician.

Pamela Corley, CPO 359, Berea, KY 40404

Minnesota Traditional Morris (Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN)

After a long and very difficult winter spring has finally graced our neck of the North country with sunny skies and mild temperatures. The last several months have been consumed with bringing in six new dancers, all of whom are progressing furiously. Our performances have been limited to the annual festival of the Mississippi Market Coop and an intermission show at a recital of the dance faculty of the University of Minnesota, of which our foreman, a medicinal chemist by training, is a member. We are planning a sumptuous (some are saying, horrendous blow-out on Mayday this year, beginning with a dawn dance in the city and followed by breakfast; our traditional Nicollet Mall Idyll, a tour of several areas in the St. Croix River Valley, a picnic and a pub stand at the Gluek Brewing Co. into the wee hours. The Bells of the North will be our partners in misadventure.

We held an organizational meeting recently to take some of the pressure off rehearsal nights. We decided to hold these semi-monthly or quart erly; and we also requested that the squire publish a quarterly letter detailing commitments and announcing the meeting. We will hold our annual team ale on May 11th, and we will help with organizing the Second Midwest Morris Ale in Madison over Memorial Day. On May 22nd our fool, Nick Lethert, who survived a bicycle ride through the chorus of “Ring O’ Bells” at last year’s ale, will join the ranks of the wedded. We all send Nick our best and warmest wishes for his new life!

Stephen Parker, 438 N.E. 4th St., Minneapolis, MN 55413

Muddy River Morris Boston Area, MA

Muddy River emerges from winter. We are 18 strong, and continue to prepare for a busy spring touring schedule, including our seventh Marlboro Ale. We resurrected a long-dormant and very ancient tradition from the village of Great Birtthington, and performed its most outstanding dance, “Banks of the Di-Dee” at the mid-winter morris madness party hosted by the Black Jokers. It is rumored that this dance and other practices have led to great expectations among three of our team members—Announcements forthcoming in a future issue of AMM.

Squire: Deborah Kruskal, 4 Potter Pl., Cambridge, MA 02138 617/864-6330
Bagman: Cindy Green, 61 Stafford St., Worcester, MA 01603 617/799-4671

Newtone Morris Men (Arlington, MA)

Contrary to popular belief we do practice! On a recent Monday night, as the sub-zero winds howled through the windows, we decided to compile a book of the way we dance. Noting that there seemed to be a right way, a wrong way, and a Newtone way, a standardized reference was suggested. From the “quiters” died down someone inquired whether this book would become “the King James version of Newtone dances.” Beyond the stylistic descriptions, one of the book’s many helpful hints will be the essential need to “Cultivate peripheral vision.” The team motto serves as its inscription: “Every dance a show dance.” No publication date is set.

Plans for the Spring include a tour with Marlboro Morris and Sword to show our appreciation for their Ale, and our eighth annual May Morning celebration at dawn. Hello to all our friends! (Ed.—It became apparent, Mark, shortly before going to press that we have once again split Newtone into two words in the Directory. We stand corrected.—SP)

Mark Wilke, 22 Prescott St., Arlington, MA 02174
Putney Morris Men

Despite one to two feet of snow cover on the ground and roof slide piles still up to our window sills, the thoughts of the Putney MM have turned towards spring. Our eight dedicated men are awaiting eagerly the big debut on May 1st in Putney where we will dance along Main Street as well as at selected outlying "manor houses". We are also looking forward to several events planned with the Marlboro club during our first touring season. We have chosen the Brackley tradition which has provided plenty of material for this year and, with adapted dances, should keep us busy as a one-tradition team.

Fred Breunig, R.J. 1 Box 9A, Putney, VT 05346

Rocky Mountain Morris and Sword (Denver, CO)

I am currently playing music (violin) and occasionally dancing with the Rocky Mountain Morris and Sword team. This team has been active for about a year, performing for various local folk dance groups and festivals. In addition to dancing morris and rapper, we put together and showed a mummers' play at Christmas time. David Hewitt is the squire of this group:

David Hewitt. 4801 Norwood Av., Loveland, CO 80537
Elaine Segelson. 1024 A Wind Trail. Ft. Collins, CO 80526

Thornden Morris (Syracuse, NY)

Thornden Morris is relatively new, having been in existence for one and a half years and expired last year by Sandra Ethridge-Bromka. We are very enthusiastic about meeting other teams and attending workshops in the Northeast. We currently dance the Binghamton and Bampton traditions taught by our foreman, John Bromka of the Binghamton MM. He is the lone male on the team.

Roberta Wackett, 235 Fellows Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210

Westerly Morris Men (Westerly, RI)

(This is a summary of the Westerly Morris Men's Newsletter which we receive periodically from George Utter.) Westerly continues to serve as a clearinghouse for information surrounding the tour by the Bampton Traditional Morris this summer. So far the itinerary includes potential performances in New York shortly after they arrive, depending on the heat. They will be met by the Greenwich Morris Men and expect at least to have a country dance featuring the team's country dance band, "The Bushmen". From New York they will attend the Canterbury Fair in Canterbury, NH. The next part of the tour will take them through the Harbortown, VT-Albany, NY area, through Cambridge, MA and down to Westerly for a weekend ale over Aug. 6-8.

The Westerly team is being featured as part of an exhibit in the Warwick Museum. Post road, Apponogue, which will include a fully dressed morris "dummy" (George's word) and a number of photographs and pieces of literature. They also sponsored a performance of "To Welcome in the Spring" (Barrand, Roberts, Breunig and Woodruff) in March and danced at the New England Folk Festival at the end of April. Westerly Morris man Everett Munro announced recently that he will be going to Haiti and that he will be getting married sometime next year.

George Utter. 54 Elm St., Westerly, RI 02891

Wild Onion Morris Men (Chicago, IL)

Cheers from the Wild Onion MM: We've had a successful first year, inspired by the first Midwest ale and looking forward to the second. We had some ups and downs with membership, but we're currently up and should be in terrific shape for the 1982 season.

Last year we danced out at local clubs and special dance events. We also danced with Ladies' Pleasure Morris at the Morton Arboretum Fall Festival, the Grant Park Third of July Concert, and the University of Chicago Folk Festival of 1982. Tony Barrand visited us in early November with a good workshop on Headington Quarry, providing us with ideas we're still bouncing around (i.e. arguing about). Christmas time found us doing a longsword dance from Bremerton, England and caroling at Crossroads, and international student club.

George Utter. 54 Elm St., Westerly, RI 02891
We did our duty by teaching an Englishman his native dance when he joined our team. Tim Druitt has since returned to Cambridge, to take up morris there only after learning his first steps from us. He was one of our best dancers, and is missed sorely. Mark Jaeger was married last summer, and he and his wife Kathy are expecting their first baby next June. Far be it from us to claim the fertile power of the morris, but it certainly must not have hurt to have the bride march under one of our stick dances at the wedding!

Paul Ford, 1472 E. 56th St., Chicago, IL 60637
Pat Ryan, 4940 S. Woodlawn, Chicago, IL 60637

Woods Hole Morris (Woods Hole, MA)

The Woods Hole Morris is looking forward to an active spring with gigs at the New England Folk Festival in late April, a big May day dawn celebration on the Charles River in Cambridge, and our own Woods Hole Day at the Cape. Recently we've learned Eynsham "Brighton Camp," and Ilmington "Shepherds' Hey" after experiencing the flush of success with the neat wheel at the end of "Maid of the Mill." Our mid-winter gigs netted us four new members and we hurriedly trained them and set off in the end of January for an Old English Fairs in Dartmouth, MA. for Girl Scouts going to England.

Recently our squire (about to retire) want to Denver to work with morris dancers there. Keep ears tuned for a team in Fort Collins and activity in Denver and Boulder.

We are polishing up our kit. We finally got fabric for vests, have a marvelous fool's smock with mating sea horses on it. We are planning some sort of sea horse motifs on the back of the vests and some day (maybe at the end of summer) a hobby sea horse.

Letters to the Editor

Capered Bacon is a Turkey
A Personal Commentary

Those of us who own and use Lionel Bacon's Handbook of Morris Dances are constantly blessing him for putting such a great compilation together and then cursing him for what he left out and the mistakes he made. Even after carefully entering all the corrections from the three sets of errata (it shows they're trying), I still encounter more mistakes. However, I write today neither to praise nor to condemn, but simply to take issue with one of Bacon's conventions: the manner in which he names "big" capers.

Bacon's convention is, "using BC (half-capers) for 'forries' (either [R-11L-T-R] or [L-11R-L-R]) . . . ; FC (fore-capers) for the first lot of capers to augmented music; and UC (upright, full or whole capers) for the second lot of capers to augmented music--irrespective of the tradition." (Bacon, p.xi). I believe Bacon's "forries" also include the [R-11L-T-R] which I was taught to use in Bampton dances.

Bacon justifies his convention as being "a consistent pattern," but to my mind, he is terribly inconsistent, confusing and even misleading.

In the first place, we have a well understood and widely accepted term, pronounced "furry" or "foray" (perhaps spelled 'fories' or 'fores'). Dancers not only know how to execute this step, but recognize which traditions perform it alternating feet on consecutive measures, and which repeat it on the same foot. I can see no justification for suddenly calling this a half-caper, and even worse, to call other distinctly different things fore-capers (perhaps pronounced fore, but remarkably similar to the other term in any case). Again, the term "half-caper" has been previously used by Sharp and others to denote other things. For example, Sharp used "half-caper" for the same Fieldtown step Bacon now calls a "forca-caper." So Fieldtown fore' capers become half-capers and half-capers become fore' capers. Is this aiding communication and understanding? To my mind it is arbitrary and totally topsy-turvy.
In the second place, we have the lumping of very dissimilar steps under the same terms: why should Bledington RTBs, Fieldtown RTFs (‘squash beetles’) and Sherborne ‘splits’ all be fore-capers? Why should Bledington ‘cross-capers’, Fieldtown ‘full-capers’ and Sherborne ‘splitters’ all be lumped under the one term of upright-caper? Is this helping me to remember the correct step?

Since Bacon defines his terms fairly well, either in the introductory section of the book or in the various introductory paragraphs for each village tradition, there is little impairment in the usefulness of his Handbook. He has gone to quite a bit of trouble to translate well established terms into his own, so he must think there is a major problem with the nomenclature of capers: but this is a feeling I don’t share. It seems to me that Bacon’s caper convention is at best unnecessary, and at worst a horribly confusing addition to the already confusing Morris dance literature. I would like to urge that we not promulgate Bacon’s caper convention in any future publications.

Ed Stern, Foreman
Minnesota Traditional Morris

(The Editors of remind our readers that although we too hail from the North Country this does not represent any statement of opinion by us. Our policy, as always, is to remain open to all points of view and to welcome opinions of all sorts in matters morris.--SP, JB, LL.)

A Response to J.S. Haddon:

Jim Haddon has obviously a love for English folk dancing of all kinds and I know that he is very enthusiastic about morris dancing in particular. Unfortunately he has done himself and others a great injustice in his recent article, ‘Research on Morris Dance Origin’, published in the Australasian and American Morris Newsletters. (For some reason it was not published in the U.K.) Without the many years of research undertaken by Roy Dormett there would have been no Morris handbook as published by Lionel Bacon recently. Yet Jim dismisses all of Roy’s work as of little consequence. Could this be because he and Roy used to know one another many years ago at a certain Y.M.C.A. and that the old rivalry is resurfacing? However Roy is greatly respected both in the U.K. and the U.S.A. for his years of research on morris dancing, and his articles and papers are always well structured and scholarly. Well documented research on migrating races and tribes (or in the various introductory paragraphs for each village tradition, dance) has been published in many journals and books by such people as Roy Dormett, John Lawson, Violet Kennedy and Douglas Kennedy to name some of the most important. Many other sources are available in unpublished manuscripts held at the Ralph Vaughn Williams Memorial Library at Cecil Sharp House. Yet not one single reference to these works was made in the article! (The staff at the R.V.W.M.L. are very happy to send anyone photocopies of articles provided costs and p. and p. are met.)

Compared to these works, a structured research report Jim’s article is not:
No clear hypotheses are stated at the beginning, there are few objective facts linked by closely structured and reasoned arguments, and there are no references to sources of information. Too many conclusions are drawn from weak and unsubstantiated apparent historical and tribal cross-cultural influences. To take paragraph 18 as an example: the interpretation that ‘Romans derogatively referred to this Greek custom as ‘Moers Ket’, ‘up the Greeks’ is just not academic style.

What references are there that Greeks stationed in Britain during the Roman occupation were allowed to perform their dances before a battle? Jim may be right but what is his source for this information? Then in the same paragraph he says that, “the locals (who and where?) would have been bound to copy...a change from the local circle dances.” How does he know that the locals danced circle dances, what form they took, etc.? And what form did the presumably ancient Greek dances take that they were supposedly copied? What aspects were copied to make them like morris? No, Jim, you cannot draw conclusions from mere supposition.

The last paragraph just cannot be taken seriously. It is well known that during the Commonwealth that dancing was tolerated and encouraged to such an extent that John Playford published his highly successful English Dancing Master in 1651. In a time of English history before mass transportation became commonplace and available to ordinary people it is hard to imagine anyone organizing an amalgamation of “various heathen ritual dances... into one dance form!” Also, at this time, the Church was more concerned with the Catholic versus Protestant issue than with the Islamic religion. Finally, “secret cells existing in isolated groups, regularly performing dances in honor of Holle or whoever” just do not exist.—That is, unless you mean the various folk dance and morris clubs!

Chris J. Brady
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**Announcements**

**Marlboro Morris Ale**

Memorial Day weekend will see the seventh Marlboro Morris Ale at Marlboro College, Marlboro, VT. Teams attending include: Albemarle, Bluemont, Bouwerie Boys, Briar Rose, Foggy Bottom, Kingsessing, Harrisville (NH), Muddy River, Newtowne, Pinewoods, Ring O' Bells, Rock Creek, and Thames Valley Morris of London, Ont. The touring schedule will have some minor changes but will generally follow the pattern of past years. Tony Barrand assured us that they are assiduously working at a bigger and better Morris Olympics.

**Midwestern Morris Ale**

The second annual Midwestern Morris Ale will also grace the Memorial Day weekend for Oak Apple, Minnesota Traditional Morris, Bells of the North, Wild Onion, Ladies' Pleasure, Bloomington, Ann Arbor and a contingent from a proto-team in Omaha, Ne. Touring will focus on the Madison area with a large and well publicized show at Vilas Park on Sunday afternoon. There will be more time for the teams to get to know each other this year, including a catered dinner and contra dance, and the addition of workshops on a variety of topics. Interested teams or individuals should contact Karen Agee of Oak Apple Morris, 2020 Field St., Madison, WI 53715.

**New England Folk Directory**

Days before going to press with this issue of AMM we received a copy of the newly published directory which will be reviewed in an upcoming issue. Those interested should write to Wayne Licwov, P. O. Box 1278, Brattleboro, VT 05301.

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The Bells-of-the-North Morris and foreman Jim Brickwedde have received requests from other Morris sides to teach them the Minneapolis-on-Mississippi dance tradition created over the last year. There are seven dances total. After much debate, we have now decided to release the dances for others to learn. Jim is willing to travel during June and July to places who wish a workshop. For those sides who wish to have a workshop in this dance tradition please write:

**Jim Brickwedde**
311 12th Ave. South
Minneapolis, MN 55407
(612) 721-8750

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Details in July . . .